

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A method for voltage regulation in an electrical power supply system ~~for a motor vehicle, which contains~~ having a supercapacitor ~~[[4]]~~, wherein in a short-term standby mode (ST), ~~the~~ an energy supply for the supercapacitor is refreshed as required in order to maintain a minimum energy supply in the supercapacitor.

2. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 1, wherein the energy supply for the supercapacitor ~~[[4]]~~ is refreshed in the short-term standby mode (ST) when ~~the~~ a voltage across the supercapacitor has fallen below a predetermined minimum value (U_1).

3. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 2, wherein in a long-term standby mode (LT), the energy supply for the supercapacitor ~~[[4]]~~ is refreshed as a reaction to an activation signal, in order to produce a minimum energy supply in the supercapacitor ~~[[4]]~~.

4. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 3, wherein the activation signal is triggered periodically in time ~~and/or~~ after detection of a predetermined event, in particular the opening of ~~the~~ a door of a motor vehicle.

5. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 4, wherein a refreshing process for the energy supply in the short-term standby mode (ST) ~~and/~~ or in the long-term standby mode (LT) is ended when the voltage across the supercapacitor ~~[[4]]~~ exceeds a predetermined maximum value (U_h).

6. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 5, wherein the energy supply for the supercapacitor ~~[[4]]~~ is refreshed by transferring energy from a battery ~~[[7]]~~ in the electrical power supply system.

7. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 6, wherein at the start of the short-term standby mode (ST) ~~and/or of or~~ or the long-term standby mode (LT), the supercapacitor ~~[[4]]~~ is discharged down to a predetermined discharge voltage (U_h), with the energy which is ~~drawn in the process~~ withdrawn from the supercapacitor preferably being transferred to a battery ~~[[7]]~~ in the electrical power supply system.

8. (currently amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 7, wherein the short-term standby mode (ST) preferably changes to the long-term standby mode (LT) after a time period of one minute to two months, ~~particularly~~ preferably after about 24 hours.

9. (currently amended) An electrical power supply system
~~for a motor vehicle having comprising~~ a supercapacitor ~~[[(4)],]~~
~~distinguished by and~~ a monitoring unit ~~[[(6)]]~~, which is
coupled to the supercapacitor and is designed to ~~carry out a~~
~~method for assist with~~ voltage regulation ~~comprising entering a~~
including the ability to enter a short-term standby mode (ST),
wherein the energy supply for the supercapacitor is refreshed
as needed in order to maintain a minimum energy supply in the
supercapacitor.

10. (currently amended) The electrical power supply system
~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 9, wherein loads ~~[[(3, 5)]]~~
having a high dynamic load component are connected to the
supercapacitor ~~[[(4)]]~~.

- 5 -

(Amendment - Application 10/674,935 - FGTL 81073011)